



APD NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Amigos en Azul brings joy to children with 7th annual "Shop with a Cop"

Members of Amigos en Azul will participate in "Shop with a Cop" at 11:35 a.m., Friday, December 11, 2009, at the Target Store in the Capital Plaza Shopping Center, 5621 North I.H. 35.

Fifty Austin Police Department officers will volunteer their time by spending it with students from Mathews and Patton elementary schools. This program allows disadvantaged children to shop with an officer and purchase \$50 worth of holiday gifts.

The "Shop with a Cop" program is an opportunity for elementary school students to socialize with officers in a positive atmosphere and reinforce the fact that police officers are friends in the community.

"Shop with a Cop is a great partnership between APD and Amigos en Azul," said Police Chief Art Acevedo. "This program is an opportunity to give to those in our community that are less fortunate and to share holiday cheer."

Before the shopping begins, Santa Claus will greet the children. Following shopping, participants will join officers for lunch at Cici's Pizza in the Capital Plaza shopping center.

Other organizations participating in this program include the Austin Police Association, Target Store, Capital Metro, and Cici's Pizza.

Media advisory: Along with a participant in the program, Cmdr. Ernest Pedraza, Lt. Carlos Botello and Lt. Joe Regalado will be available for comment at 11:30 a.m. at the Target Store.

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